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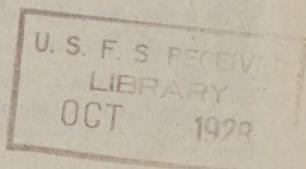
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FOREST PRODUCTS RESEARCH IN PICTURES

NO. 65

AMPLE STICKERING KEEPS
LUMBER STRAIGHT



FOREST PRODUCTS LABORATORY
U. S. FOREST SERVICE
MADISON, WISCONSIN

These kiln trams were not, as a skeptic has already remarked, piled especially for photographing. The piling and stickering practice shown are standard with a lumber company manufacturing southern pine.

Three trucks are used under each side of a 16-foot load, each pair of trucks supporting three carefully laid lines of stickers of uniform thickness. The lumber is box piled with the short lengths inside. As the stickers are spaced at short intervals, the inner ends of 14, 12, and 10-foot lengths have no more chance to be unsupported and therefore warp than do the ends of the 16-foot lengths. The spaces between boards on each course are carefully maintained in order to provide adequate vertical flues in each load. By combining the piling methods shown here with good kiln operation the company concerned has reduced warping, twisting, cupping, and "crook" during kiln drying and subsequent degrade due to planer splitting to a minimum.

With the use of six trucks under each load the derailment of a single truck is not so apt to affect the entire load as it is when four trucks are used and the replacing of the truck is easier. Should derailment occur within the kiln, the tram will usually work through without wrecking, a point which can be appreciated by any dry shed foreman.

Photograph by Forest Products Laboratory, U. S. Forest Service

